TOP SECRET

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FAR EAST

1. CHINA: Proposal for repatriation ship to Shanghai—US Ambassador Stuart, in concurring with the recommendation of the US Consul General in Shanghai that a means be provided for repatriating US nationals from Shanghai, expresses the view that "it is not too early" to take the preliminary steps to arrange for transportation and to obtain the necessary clearances from Chinese authorities in Canton and Shanghai. Stuart points out that the persecution of US officials and businessmen in Shanghai underscores the inability of the US to provide adequate protection for its nationals in Communist China. Stuart believes that the response among US citizens in Shanghai to a repatriation ship might well be enthusiastic.

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